



April 2018

Noteworthy with Dr. Ellis

Happy April! In keeping with our theme of Summer Learning, I wanted to share a great opportunity with you. Through a partnership with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Oklahoma State Department of Education and Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, training is being provided for three new courses. The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) developed the courses as well as the training for College Career Math Ready, Ready for High School Math, and Literacy Ready.

College Career Math Ready is a free course designed for high school seniors who have completed Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II, and need a transition course to get them ready for college-level coursework. The course emphasizes understanding of mathematics concepts rather than memorizing procedures. [Click here](#) to find more information about this course. Trainings will be provided from 8:30-4:30, with lunch provided, on the following dates:

June 4-6: Francis Tuttle Tech Center (Portland Campus), 3500 NW 150th Street, OKC, OK

June 23-25: Wilson Teaching and Learning Academy, 2710 E 11th Street, Tulsa, OK

These trainings are for teachers from schools who will be implementing Math Ready in the 2018-2019 school year. Curriculum specialists and school administrators are welcome to attend, space permitting. [Click here](#) to register.

Ready for High School Math is a free course designed for 8th and 9th graders who need extra support to get them ready for Algebra I. The free, full-year course emphasizes understanding of mathematics concepts rather than memorizing procedures. School year 2018-2019 will be a pilot year and an opportunity to engage in this exciting course

work that is sure to get you and your students excited about mathematics. [Click here](#) to find more information about this course. SREB will host a webinar to introduce this course to administrators and educators in Oklahoma who may want to implement in 2018-2019, on Tuesday, April 17, at 3:30, [click here](#) to register for the webinar. Training will be provided from 8:30-4:30, with lunch provided, on the following dates:

June 4-6: Wilson Teaching and Learning Academy, 2710 E 11th Street, Tulsa, OK

This training is for teachers from schools who will be implementing Ready for High School Math in the 2018-2019 school year. Curriculum specialists and school administrators are welcome to attend, space permitting. [Click here](#) to register.

Literacy Ready is a free set of units designed for high school seniors who need a transition course to get them ready for college-level coursework. Teachers can utilize Literacy Ready units to enhance their senior English course. [Click here](#) to find more information on Literacy Ready. SREB will host a webinar to introduce this course to administrators and educators in Oklahoma who may want to implement in 2018-2019, on Wednesday April 18, at 3:30, [click here](#) to register for the webinar. Training will be provided from 8:30-4:30, with lunch provided, on the following dates:

June 4-6: Francis Tuttle Tech Center (Portland Campus), 3500 NW 150th Street, OKC, OK

This training is for teachers from schools who will be implementing Ready for High School Math in the 2018-2019 school year. Curriculum specialists and school administrators are welcome to attend, space permitting. [Click here](#) to register.

All the trainings are FREE. If you would like to reserve some of your most recent 515 funds for travel expenses for your teachers and/or stipends for them to attend, this is an acceptable use of those funds. Your most recent (and final) School Improvement funds should be uploaded into GMS. If you need assistance completing your Sustainability Plan or amending your budget, please do not hesitate to reach out to your School Support Specialist or myself. Hang on!! May is coming!

Grant Talk

Final allocations have been loaded into GMS and, webinars were held in late March. The powerpoint and webinars are available on our webpage. If you have questions or need further information, please contact your assigned School Support Specialist or Zada Sery at (405)521-4269 or zada.sery@sde.ok.gov. I am also available for over-the-phone/onsite technical assistance or GMS end-user training for new staff.

Leading Edge-Jenks East Elementary

Reaching Beyond the School Bell...

Written by Ryan Glaze, Site Principal – Jenks East Elementary

There is a cathartic sense of order that lies within our school schedules; The day beginning predictably each morning with the sound of brake pads, whooshing hinged bus doors, and cheerful greetings from staff, families, and students. Children’s feet patter towards the cafeteria, the walking track, their building(s), and ultimately their classrooms. This carefully choreographed dance comes to a precipice as the morning bell rings and the day “officially” begins, holding its own surprises and delights, only to return to the aforementioned “dance” after the dismissal bell each afternoon. After which, the school that was moments ago so full of life and activity slowly slips into a steady silence. Similarly, the school calendar itself lends to a perpetual rise and fall punctuated by the familiar excitement of both the beginning and ending of the school year each August and May. What happens when we disrupt that order? Good things happen, as it turns out!



Jenks East Elementary is a Community School serving over 1,600 students in the South Tulsa area. The school serves a tremendously diverse population of students in this suburban community and has aligned its mission around not only teaching and learning, but also in serving as a hub for meeting the needs of its families and communities. We accomplish this through specific needs assessments and purposeful community partnership that aligns our resources to best meet those identified needs. One of the many needs that we have identified in our work as a Community School is the opportunity to extend both the school day and the school year as a means of both enrichment and remediation for our students. As we’ve initiated and grown programs that occur outside of the “typical school schedule” we’ve seen very positive gains surrounding student academic growth as well as with the engagement and affect of our families. Some of our favorite programs are described briefly below:



Early Learning Opportunities

Research and experience tells us that early childhood intervention is one of the most effective inlets for remediating and preparing students for success in school. A challenge we have found over time is that many of our students were coming to us in pre-k and kindergarten with developmental delays and a lack of supports as their families did not have the resources or ability to connect with preschool programs or therapy providers. We wanted to help! We are now partnering with Parents as Teachers and other volunteers and staff from our school to offer early childhood programming for children birth to four weekly before school on our campus. It’s been a delight to see how families have engaged, and we have been able to help parents with developmental screening and strategies/resources to better prepare their children for school!

After-school Enrichment/Remediation

Our district and community have a beautiful tapestry of afterschool enrichment and remediation opportunities, but they are almost entirely fee-based programs which prohibits access for many of our students that would benefit from them most. Working with school staff, PTA, and community partners we have been able to dramatically increase the opportunities for all students for access to these types of programs. We currently have 17 afterschool enrichment programs offering a variety of fun and engaging opportunities for our students. The clubs focus on a variety of themes such as acts of kindness, hip hop dance, cooking, health/wellness, board games, and so on. Most of the club themes were selected directly from student survey feedback conducted last spring. Additionally, we have 12 afterschool reading groups that meet two or more times per week serving kindergarten through fourth grade students needing remediation. These programs are all provided at no cost to our students through a coordination of funds and partnership, and the results have been nothing short of amazing! We are so energized that these opportunities are now a part of our school's fingerprint and contribution to our community!



Summer Learning

I'm very proud of what has long become a tradition of serving at-risk elementary students through wonderful summer remediation or language acquisition opportunities on our school campus. Each summer we welcome over 300 students back to our campus for one of three programs: Literacy Academy (k/1st grade reading remediation), RSA Summer Program (3rd grade students retained or on probationary promotion), and English Learners' Newcomer Program (k-4 Newcomers). These programs are funded through Title I, Title III, and RSA funds and each serve a collective of identified students that greatly benefit from an extended school year. These programs allow us to avoid the regression that is very typical among at-risk or EL students over an extended school break and allow us to continue the momentum of academic growth as well as the further cultivation of the growth mindset. Additionally, we are excited to be able to serve these students both breakfast and lunch beginning this year through our 'Seamless Summer' meal program, benefiting both our students and the sustainability of the meal program held on our campus.

Thinking beyond the school bell is not without its logistical challenges, but we at Jenks East Elementary have found the benefits of such thinking to align very well with our mission/goals. Even surpassing that, it is tremendously beneficial for our community and our students! I know that we're not alone, and I would encourage anyone who hasn't broken the norm of a traditional school schedule to consider doing so. There are many treasures awaiting your school and students buried beyond 3:30PM and in those summer months if you're willing to do a little digging!

Profession Development Opportunities.

Coping with Secondary Trauma for Educators

The Office of Alternative Education has partnered with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to offer a half-day training on secondary trauma in April.

The Story We Tell Ourselves: Taking the Stress Out of Secondary Traumatic Stress

Careers in the educational, social services and first responder fields can be uniquely challenging. The potential stress of this work, including the unavoidable physical and psychological effects on workers within these fields, can lead to troubling and unexpected consequences for how workers engage and interact with the people they are attempting to help and serve.

This presentation discusses recent science and ideas about stress and its purpose; the parallel process that occurs with individuals and systems; and how to implement quick, concrete tools for ameliorating the secondary effects of bearing witness to others' stories so that workers can remain focused and healthy while being of maximum service to others.

Topics of discussion will also include trauma and students in state care, ESSA, Education Compact for kids in state care, reporting of child abuse and why identification for 504 or IEP services is so important.

Register for a training location below. Please note that all trainings begin at 9 a.m.

April 17, McAlester

Kiamichi Technology Center, Seminar Room

[Register here](#)

April 20, Duncan

Red River Technology Center, Jerry D. Morris Business & Industry Center Bldg.

[Register here](#)

April 25, Bartlesville

Tri-County Technology Center, Cherokee Room

[Register here](#)

April 26, Woodward

High Plains Technology Center, Room 201 AB

[Register here](#)

If you have questions, contact Jennifer Wilkinson, Director of Alternative Education, at jennifer.wilkinson@sde.ok.gov or (405) 522-0276.

Free LETRS Training

May 7-8 – Module 6: Digging for Meaning: Teaching Text Comprehension – Duncan

Registration link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/letrs-module-6-professional-development-duncan-tickets-44688441331>

May 9-10 – Module 4: The Mighty Word (Vocabulary) – Durant

Registration link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/letrs-module-4-professional-development-durant-tickets-44687264812>

May 24-25 – Module 4: The Mighty Word (Vocabulary) – Howe

Registration link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/letrs-module-4-professional-development-howe-tickets-44944106031>

LETRS comprehensive, professional development responds to the growing need for high-quality support for literacy educators. More than any other professional development curriculum, LETRS prepares educators for the challenging work of teaching literacy.

LETRS Module 4 emphasizes the importance of word meanings for reading comprehension and reviews many research-based approaches to vocabulary instruction. Beginning with an overview of the vocabulary gap that characterizes many poor readers, the roles of home language, reading aloud, verbal modeling in the classroom, and independent reading in vocabulary development are explored. Many methods for teaching breadth and depth of word knowledge are introduced and practiced.

LETRS Module 6 discusses and illustrates the many conditions, skills, processes, and abilities that influence reading comprehension outcomes. The goal is to help teachers anticipate the challenges students face as they prepare to read any given text, and to enable students to make inferences about underlying meanings. Participants will examine the different variables that have an impact on comprehension, as well as learn about teaching strategies that are supported by research.

If you have questions, contact Melissa Ahlgrim, Director of Reading Sufficiency, at melissa.ahlgrim@sde.ok.gov or (405) 522-1591.

Summer Learning Opportunitites



Special Education Services – Professional Development Opportunities:

End-of-Year (EOY) Comprehensive Training

<http://sde.ok.gov/sde/end-year-data-reporting> - Registration information found on the bottom of the page

Engage OK July 9th-19th for the Office of Special Education Services sessions:

Accommodations

10 Top Issues in Special Education

OkEd Plan updates

Evaluation/Eligibility for Special Education Services

(405) 522-1591.

Office of School Support Engage OK Topics July 9th-19th

What Will School Support Look Like Under ESSA?

Tips and Tricks For New Teachers

Co-Teaching

Family engagement Matters

Teaching with Poverty in Mind

Summer Learning for Students:

25 Activities to Keep Kids' Brains Active in Summer:

http://www.educationworld.com/a_curr/profdev073.shtml

Office of School Support Contact Information

- **Shelly Ellis**, Executive Director, shelly.ellis@sde.ok.gov, (405) 522-3263
- **Janie Stewart**, Division Support Coordinator, janie.stewart@sde.ok.gov, (405) 522-0140, F: (405) 522-6015
- **Zada Sery**, Grants Consultant, zada.sery@sde.ok.gov, (405) 521-4269
- **Robin Anderson**, SIG Director, robin.anderson@sde.ok.gov, (405) 521-2809
- **Janel Cypert**, Specialist - Focus, janel.cypert@sde.ok.gov, (405) 521-2841
- **Joyce Rock**, Specialist, joyce.rock@sde.ok.gov, (405) 227-6812
- **Jan Foreman**, Specialist, jan.foreman@sde.ok.gov, (580) 618-1000 or (580) 622-6153
- **Deborah Cornelison**, Specialist, deborah.cornelison@sde.ok.gov, (405) 985-8442
- **Shawna Wilson**, Specialist, shawna.wilson@sde.ok.gov, (405) 522-3967
- **Dawn Miller**, Specialist, dawn.miller@sde.ok.gov, (405) 522-5268
- **Lorraine Eldrenkamp**, Specialist, lorraine.eldrenkamp@sde.ok.gov, (405) 522-1476

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